

"I LIKE TO SEE A MAN
PROUD OF THE PLACE IN
WHICH HE LIVES"

DRAWER

6A

SPOURIOUS QUOTATIONS

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Abraham Lincoln Quotations & Sayings

Spurious

“I like to See a Man Proud of
the Place in which he Lives”

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

SPEYER & Co.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

NEW YORK, December 3, 19 28.

Louis A. Warren, Esq., Director,
Lincoln Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir,

A few years ago I read somewhere the quotation, which appears on the cover of the little pamphlet enclosed herewith, which sentiment is supposed to have been expressed by Abraham Lincoln.

Since then I have tried to find the source of this quotation; but, so far, without success. Somebody told me that Lincoln made this remark in one of his letters, and if, in any way, you can help me to get an authentic statement where and when Lincoln expressed this sentiment, I shall appreciate it very much indeed.

Thanking you, and apologizing for troubling you,

Very truly yours,



F:JS
enc.

revised
revised

December 15, 1928

Mr. James Speyer
Speyer & Company
New York City, N. Y.

Dear sir:

My delay in the reply to your inquiry about the source of the quotation below, as edited to Abraham Lincoln, is an admission that I have not thus far been able to place it.

"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives,

"I like to see a man have so that his place will be proud of him."

Abraham Lincoln

While the quotation is familiar, I have been hoping to find it in one of his early addresses rather than in his correspondence. My opinion is that it was used in association with Springfield, Illinois, and I have sent out some inquiries to friends there.

We are not going to give up until we find this quotation and will advise you as soon as we are successful. Our information bureau welcomes just such questions as this.

Respectfully yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:S

SPEYER & Co.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

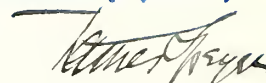
New York, December 18, 1928.

My dear Mr. Warren,

I am very much obliged to you for your letter of the 15th, and for the trouble you have taken about the quotation credited to Abraham Lincoln. I have tried, in various ways, to find the source of this quotation; but, so far, without success.

Thanking you beforehand, I remain,
with the Compliments of the Season,

Sincerely yours,



Louis A. Warren, Esq., Director,
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

F:JS

December 26, 1928

Mr. James Speyer
Speyer & Company
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Speyer:

The information bureau of our Foundation is somewhat chagrined because of its inability to locate the quotation credited to Abraham Lincoln which appears on the folder of the Museum of the City of New York.

This is the first time we have been unable to answer a request and have found it necessary to go outside for information. We have several lines out, and I am enclosing a reply from the Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library with reference to this quotation.

If you have any further advice which might assist us in identifying the passage to which you have referred, we should be very glad to have it.

Respectfully yours,

LAN:VL
Enc.

Director,
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation.

SPEYER & Co.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31st, 19 28

My dear Mr. Warren,

Mr. James Speyer wishes me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and to thank you for all the trouble you have taken about locating the quotation credited to Abraham Lincoln, about which he wrote to you recently.

Very truly yours,

F. M. Pendreigh
Private Secretary.

Louis A. Warren, Esq.,

Fort Wayne, Ind.

March 15, 1929

Mr. James Speyer
Speyer and Company
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Speyer:

The enclosed clipping was recently called to my attention by the clerk who cares for the items which come to our clipping service.

I wrote to the Editor of the Kansas City Times asking if he could locate the quotation which he had used at the head of his editorial, but have been unable to get any reply from him.

Possibly you may have better success in learning the source of this information.

Respectfully yours,

LAW:VL

Director,
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation.

SPEYER & Co.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

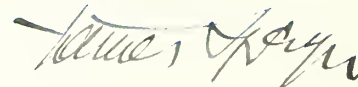
NEW YORK, March 19, 19 29.

My dear Mr. Warren,

I thank you very much for your letter of the 15th, and for remembering my request.

I have written to the Editor of the "Kansas City Times", as per copy enclosed, and if I do get any answer I will let you know.

Sincerely yours,



Louis A. Warren, Esq., Director,
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

F:JS
enc.

March 19, 29.

To the
Editor of the "Kansas City Times",
Kansas City, Mo.

My dear Sir,

In your issue of February 12th,
there appeared a short editorial headed "Lincoln".
I am very much interested in ascertaining where
Abraham Lincoln used these words, and if you can
give me any information as to where you got the
quotation used by you, it would help me.

Apologizing for troubling you
with this matter, and thanking you in advance,

Very truly yours,

(sgd.) James Speyer

FJS

+ quoted at the beginning
of your article

Lincoln.

I believe a man should be proud of the city in which he lives, and that he should so live that his city will be proud that he lives in it.—*Abraham Lincoln.*

Lincoln had a way of putting into a few words the most comprehensive truths. There is in the observation here quoted a broadly inclusive creed of personal behavior. In substance it is like Shakespeare's "To thyself be true and thou canst not then be false to any man." Whether in his addresses, his state papers, his letters or his recorded comments, Lincoln adhered to plain, understandable language, having no flair for the oratorical or rhetorical, yet prevailing by the sheer force of simplicity and reason. In those things that set standards of character, of conduct and duty, his mature life was in itself a sort of creed. There was a grandeur in his homely philosophy as there was a nobility in his angular figure and features and his somber countenance. The greatness of the man has grown with the years, with the recurrences of the anniversary that is celebrated today.

In last Sunday's Star a staff correspondent retraced the steps of Lincoln in his visit to Kansas in 1860. The narrative was a revealing story of the man who soon was to receive a presidential nomination and to be the first Republican President. He came to Kansas without great prestige, but he left enduring memories for the manner in which he discussed the great issues of the hour, the way he met the people, the way he adapted himself to time and occasion with unfailing understanding.

Legend has enlarged upon the life of Lincoln. No man ever needed such enlargement less. His career was at once romantic, graphic and dramatic, marking the advent and passing of one of the greatest figures in all history, a figure sometimes mystical, but more often revealing itself in gentle intimacy to the better, nobler natures of the human family. A people that has produced a Lincoln should be a people proud of its product and forever influenced by his example.



HORACE LIVERIGHT INC., PUBLISHERS
31 WEST 42TH STREET 2 NEW YORK CITY
CABLE: LIVERIGHT-N.Y.

October 6, 1931.

My dear Dr. Warren:

Mr. Emanuel Hertz and Mr. Charles P. White have suggested that I refer to you on a matter concerning a quotation from Abraham Lincoln. I am trying to find out the source and occasion on which the following quotation was uttered:

"Be proud of the town you live in and so live that the town you live in may be proud of you."

Is this quotation familiar to you? Did Lincoln utter it and if so, where and when?

I shall appreciate any information you can give me in this matter.

Sincerely yours,
HORACE LIVERIGHT, Inc.

Saxe Commings

Saxe Commings

SC:MI

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Life Insurance
Fort Wayne, Indiana

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
East Orange, New Jersey

Adeline T. Davidson
Librarian

September 27, 1934.

Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne,
Indiana.

Gentlemen:

You doubtless know that on the second floor above the stairway in the Museum of the City of New York on Fifth Avenue, there is a quotation from Abraham Lincoln - "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives, I like to see a man so live that his place will be proud of him." I have tried without success to locate this, and have asked at the Museum, but the assistants have been unable to tell me from what work of Lincoln's it is quoted. If you can give me this information, I shall appreciate it very much.

Very truly yours,

Ora Frances King
Reference Librarian.

OFK:MH
encl.

quotations

October 1, 1934

Miss Ora F. King
Reference Librarian
Free Public Library
East Orange, New Jersey

My dear Miss King:

In October, 1931 I had a request from New York asking for information about the quotation "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives; I like to see a man so live that his place will be proud of him"

It is suggested that this might be a quotation of Abraham Lincoln but we have nowhere found such a statement in his writings.

We regret we cannot assist you in identifying this quotation as one originating with Abraham Lincoln.

Very sincerely yours,

Director

LAW:AAM



GDF/KK

PUBLICATION OFFICES
324 W. LIBERTY STREET
LOUISVILLE, KY.

August 27
1935

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:-

I am quite interested in Junior Chamber of Commerce work and have been advised that the following quotation is one from Abraham Lincoln:

"I believe that a man should be proud of the city in which he lives and that he should so live that his city will be proud that he lives in it."

Can you tell me if this is correct and furnish me with a few facts of when it was said and from what speech. This would be a wonderful quotation to use for our local organization.

Fort Wayne has a quite active Junior Board of Commerce and the thought occurs to me that they might welcome the suggestion from you that this quotation be used also by their organization.

With best wishes, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Geo. DuR. Fairleigh
Geo. DuR. Fairleigh,
Assistant Secretary.

August 28, 1935

Mr. Geo. DuR Fairleigh, Asst. Secretary
The Insurance Field
324 W. Liberty Street
Louisville, Kentucky

My dear Mr. Fairleigh:

There have been many inquiries come to this office during the past year or two about the quotation credited to Abraham Lincoln:

"I believe that a man should be proud
of the city in which he lives and
that he should also live that his city
will be proud that he lives in it."

We have never been able to locate this statement in Abraham Lincoln's writings or speeches and the fact that it has come to us in so many different forms rather makes us feel that we shall not be able to find it. The Museum of the City of New York desired to use this quotation on the outside of their building and wrote to us to confirm the quotation, but we could not do so. In several other instances we have been approached about its authenticity but although renewed efforts have been made in trying to locate it, we are unable to do so.

We regret very much to disappoint you but we hardly believe the quotation can be confirmed.

Very truly yours,

LAW:LH

Director

6

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FIFTH AVENUE
103RD TO 104TH STREETS
LEHIGH 4-1672

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

July 16, 1940

The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sirs:

We have read with interest the little booklet published by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company and it occurs to us that you might be able to assist us in locating the source of a Lincoln quotation:

"I like to see a man proud of
the place in which he lives,
I like to see a man live so
that his place will be proud
of him."

If you should ever come across this quotation in any of Lincoln's writings we would be more than grateful for the information.

With best wishes for the continued success of the Foundation,

Very truly yours,



Executive Secretary

July 19, 1940

Miss Sarah Hamilton, Exec. Secy.
Museum of the City of New York
103rd to 104th Sts.
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Hamilton:

Several years ago we had occasion to correspond with someone associated with the Museum of the City of New York with reference to the quotation "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives, I live to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."

At that time we did considerable research work on the problem but never was able to find any evidence that Lincoln spoke those words. Other queries on the same question have come to us.

We first saw this quotation in print in the Kansas City Times February 12, 1829 when it was used at the head of an editorial but it gives no authority for its origin.

We will be pleased indeed to keep your query in mind and if further light is thrown upon this quotation we will advise you.

Very truly yours,

LAW:BS

Director

9
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MONTECLAIR, NEW JERSEY

Margery Quigley, Librarian

November 30, 1943

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Dr. Warren:

On a museum in the city of New York City is the quotation
"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives; I
like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him".

This was attributed to Lincoln but as far as we know no one has
ever located the source of the quotation. It occurred to us that
if anyone has ever seen it in his works, that you might know where
it was to be found.

We will be very much pleased and exceedingly grateful if you
can help us with this question.

Sincerely yours,

Gladys Segar

Gladys Segar
Adult Guidance Assistant

GS:GVL

December 6, 1943

Gladys Segar, Adult Guidance Assistant
Free Public Library
Montclair, New Jersey

My dear Madam:

For many years we have had inquiries with respect to the quotation on the museum in New York City which begins "I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."

Nowhere have we ever been able to find any statement that even parallels this quotation. I cannot believe that Lincoln ever used the inscribed words. It sounds a whole lot to me like a modern Chamber of Commerce slogan. Possibly some day we will find where it originated.

Very truly yours,

LAW:WM

Director

House & Garden

6 pages of Building

A Guide to the Best of the Year

"I like to see a man
proud of the place
in which he lives.

"I like to see a man
live so that his place
will be proud of him."

Abraham Lincoln

February 1944 Price 35 Cents

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12th
BIRTHDAY OF A. LINCOLN



*"I like to see a man proud of his place
in which he lives.*

*I like to see a man live so that his place
can be proud of him."*

—Abraham Lincoln

Much has been said of Abraham Lincoln's tender solicitude for all living things. He seemed to find a genuine satisfaction in living the simple life of a plain, practical man of the small country town.

The story is told of Mr. Lincoln that one day as he rode along with a party of friends, he saw a pig struggling to keep herself from sinking into a deep place filled with mud. His friends laughed and rode on, but in a few minutes Mr. Lincoln's kind heart bade him turn his horse back, and soon both he and the pig emerged from the hole muddy but happy!

Hearts that are big have room for things that are small. The man whose conscience would not allow him to leave even a pig to suffer was a man who could be trusted to emancipate four million slaves.

*Search made
Bureau 2/12/24*

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

BELL TELEPHONE BUILDING

1365 CASS AVENUE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN -26

April 28, 1944

TELEPHONE CHERRY 9900

THOMAS I. STARR
Editor, *The Michigan Bell*

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

Thank you for your very formal letter of April 26, addressed to me in care of the Museum Building Fund Headquarters. It has just been sent over to me.

I am grateful for your comments on my copy of Meserve #42, and shall appreciate additional light. I sent my copy down to Meserve and he reported that it is not an original, as I was sure it was not, but that it is a very excellent copy.

AS to the Lincoln quotation on the bottom of our letterhead, Brother you have me on a limb. I knew nothing of its use until the office sent over to me a supply of the letterhead. I have seen the quotation used elsewhere, but have never used it myself or taken the trouble to run down the authenticity of it. It's just one of those things which I took for granted. But I'll share the responsibility, if such must be assumed by me, with another member of your esteemed Lincoln Foundation Advisory Group whose name also appears on the letterhead. What's the low-down on this alleged quotation? Or is it one of those which be put in the same classification as what they say about the Irish? "Half the lies they tell about the Irish aren't true."

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

an 8 an

PS: Here's another one which I have considered putting ~~my~~ on my letterhead: "Whoever regards work as a pleasure, can certainly have a hell of a lot of fun in this organization." Can't that be credited to Lincoln too?

The guarantees, I said, were picked up & used by the gentleman - a professional - who is running our company. I say he has and it was long ago. I say it was taken by him - who else could have said it?"

May 5, 1944

Mr. Tom Starr
Michigan Bell Telephone Company
1365 Cass Avenue
Detroit, 26, Michigan

Dear Tom:

I hope this letter may get through to you without going through the president of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company. Some queer things happen in a large office. Our correspondence is taken care of by the Stenographic Department and, of course, a literal interpretation of a letterhead is given precedence as it should be.

Your query in ink interests me very much and I have already answered it two or three times.

The author of your quotation says, "Of course it was said by Lincoln, who else could have said it?" Well, I have often answered just that question by saying any member of any Chamber of Commerce would say the same thing but Lincoln was not a member of a Chamber of Commerce and I think he had very little of the provincial urge, sometimes called loyalty or college spirit and sometimes just plain egotism if that term can be personified by either a small town or a large city or even a nation. Well, I didn't start out to elaborate on this thing. I rather think your quotation sounds a whole lot more like the one on the letterhead of the Museum.

Regards to the family.

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:CRS
L.A. Warren

*"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives.
I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."*

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Museum of the City of New York, Inc.



DESIGN OF PROPOSED BUILDING FOR MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FIFTH AVENUE BETWEEN 103RD & 104TH STREETS.

A Museum of old and new New York.
To be built and maintained by New Yorkers.
For All the People of New York
and Strangers within Our Gates.

New Orleans is My Home

I AM PROUD of my city, with its beautiful parks, splendid homes, broad well paved avenues, modern docks and shipping facilities, extensive public belt system, excellent schools, colleges and universities, fine modern hotels and good restaurants, well appointed hospitals and well regulated charitable institutions, numerous churches, magnificent bank buildings, pure water supply, interesting Carnival festivities and Vieux Carre, extensive public improvements being fostered by a progressive city government, up-to-date zoning laws, hospitable well-meaning people, attractive public amusements, improving lakeshore front, equable climate free from extremes, wonderful future.

I AM PROUD to live in the Greatest City in the South, "America's Most Interesting City," because life *is* worth living here.

LINCOLN said: "I like to see a man *proud* of the place in which he lives; I like to see a man live in it so that his place will be *proud* of him."

THIS is my Civic Creed. It is an easy one for any Orleanian to follow. Be wise and adopt it.

EDW. E. SOULE.

(Over)

Try This Test

ASK the first twenty friends you meet, "what is the matter with New Orleans?" and nineteen out of the twenty will tell you "the town is all right but the people lack civic pride."

YES, that's just it. They *do* "lack civic pride." Now the way to eradicate this fault in our community complex is by practicing a little personal psychology. Every citizen should mentally "sell New Orleans" to himself. The occasional reading of the Civic Creed on reverse hereof by you and others will "pep up" your and their civic enthusiasm—and in due time, (a la Coue) will impress permanently the "civic pride" idea upon the hearts and minds of all our good people. That is what we want and need.

WE ALL have a religious creed, a moral creed, a political creed—why not a *civic pride creed*?

THE Civic Pride Creed on opposite side is good for YOU—good for your employes—good for your visitors and customers.

HANG card where it can do some good. (Extra cards sent on request).

SOULÉ COLLEGE

1410 Jackson Avenue

(Over)



R. E. (Bert) BROWNE

Special Agent

THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY

**LIFE
ACCIDENT - HEALTH
AND**

"Insurance on Everything Insurable"

PHONES: RES. 3-5068—BUS. 3-7777

RACINE, WISCONSIN

I like
to meet a
man who
speaks well of the
town in which
he lives.
I like to meet a man
whose town speaks
well of him.
Bert

